United States Mission to the OSCE

Interpretive Statement: Restructuring the TIP Mechanism

As delivered by Ambassador Julie Finley to the Permanent Council, Vienna June 22, 2006

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The United States welcomes the decision on combating trafficking in human beings, which was adopted following expiration of silence on June 21st. Combating trafficking in human beings is a high priority for our country. We urge that the position be filled quickly by the appointment of a highly-qualified individual.

The United States would like to make clear and stress that this decision in no way sets any precedent for the placement of other Chairman-in-Office Representatives or other high-level positions.

We ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.